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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)
 Tadashi Ito et al.) Group Art Unit:
 Application No.:) Examiner:
 Filed: January 27, 2005) Confirmation No.:
 For: RETARDER AND CIRCULAR)
 POLARIZER)
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)
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FIRST INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the accompanying information is being submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98.

All of the listed documents were cited in the International Search Report of the corresponding PCT application.

To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. However, copies of the documents listed in the International Search Report are not provided as it is understood that they have already been transmitted by the International Bureau. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date January 27, 2005

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO & 1449B/PTO		Complaint Known
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(use as many sheets as necessary)		Filing Date
		First Named Inventor Tadashi Ito et al.
		Examiner Name
Sheet	1	of 1
		Attorney Docket Number 032879-034

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Document Number	Kind Code (if known)	Country	Date of Publication (MM-DD-YYYY)	STATUS			
					IPER	Abstract	Cited in Spec	
	0 928 984	EP		07-14-1999				
	98/00475	WO		01-08-1998			*	
	2 329 899	Great Britain		04-07-1999			*	
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	95/22586	WO		08-24-1995			*	
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	2000 206331	Japan		07-28-2000			*	
	1 170 353	EP		01-09-2002			*	

NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

Examiner Signature _____ **Date Considered** _____

***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.